

REMARKS

By this amendment, claim 4 has been presented for examination. Therefore, on entering this amendment, claims 1-4 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 2-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Genov et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,121,743) in view of Cheng et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2003/017847).

The Applicants traverse the rejections and requests reconsideration.

Rejection of claims 2-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

The amended claims 2-3 are believed to be in proper form.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claim 1 has been amended to remove the limitation “or controlling a position and an attitude thereof,” which has been included in dependent claim 4.

The amended claim 1 clarifies that the present invention requires the control apparatus to subject a designated one of the tools to an interpolate control while controlling a position. It further requires the control apparatus to subject another tool to a uniform payoff control to instruct to an axis angle of a target position.

The Examiner admits that the primary reference Genov does not suggest subjecting one of the tools to interpolate control and the other to a uniform payoff control. While Genov appears to be showing more than one tool sharing an axis, it does not show the two tools being subject to different types of control.

Cheng does not overcome this deficiency. Cheng merely suggest interpolate control. It does not suggest subjecting one of the tools to interpolate control, while subjecting another tool, with which the first tool shares an axis, to uniform payoff control.

The Examiner has not established *prima facie* obviousness at least because he has not shown where the limitation that the two axis sharing tools are subjected to two different types of control.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/Chidambaram.S.Iyer/

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON DC SUGHRUE/265550

65565

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Chid S. Iyer
Registration No. 43,355

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